THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY of FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): Exemption from excise duty has been provided to all goods manufactured and cleared from specified growth centres, Industrial Infrastructure Development Centres, Export Promotion Parks etc. in the State of Assam, Tripura and Meghalaya in order to accelerate the industrial development of these areas.

Non Receipt of Export Proceeds from Exporters

1299.SHRI KHAN GHUFRAN ZAHIDI: Will the MINISTER of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that some exporters are intentionally keeping money abroad;

(b) whether RBI has submitted a list, of such exporters to the Ministry of Finance;

(c) if so, the list of exporters from whom-export proceeds are not received and the period for which this payment is pending at Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai and Calcutta; and

(d) what actions are being taken against these exporters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) The Government is aware that in case of certain exporters, some export bills are outstanding.

(b) The Reserve Bank of India sends half yearly statements of outstanding export bills to the concerned nodal Customs Houses.

(c) The list of exporters who show indifference to the communications for realisation of outstanding export proceeds is available with the Enforcement Directorate.

(d) Action taken against such exporters include issue of show cause notices, adjudication and imposition of penalty, under the relevant provisions of Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1973.

Defrauding of Investors by Mutual Fund Sector

1300. SHRI JIBON ROY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that since India's liquidity market is liberalised and private players are allowed to enter-mutual fund sector, many have found this

sector as a soft peddling ground for frauding investors and large number of companies have closed their shops siphoning out the invested funds; and

(b) the names of such companies so far reported to the Ministry of Finance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) There are no instances of Mutual Funds having closed their operations. However, the operations of CRB Mutual Fund were stopped by SEBI in May, 1997 following irregularities in the non-banking finance activities of their group companies.

Listing of Financial Companies in the Stock Market

1301. SHRI JIBON ROY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has denied registration to some financial companies in the Cabinet market;

(b) whether the share prices of such companies have increased in the recent period;

(c) if so, the names of such companies and the extent of rise in their share price;

(d) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the statement made by SEBI Chairman that the financial companies denied registration should not be listed in the stock market; and

(e) if so, the steps taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) The Reserve Bank of India has rejected the applications for registration of 1468 Non Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs).

(b) and (c) The pattern of price rise on the stock markets is widespread and is not limited to such scrips only.

(d) and (e) SEBI has advised all stock exchanges to obtain information for all such listed companies. The exchanges were asked to take appropriate action including issue of show cause notice to companies which had not given correct and complete information in time. The exchanges were further directed to disseminate the correct information to investors/market participants.